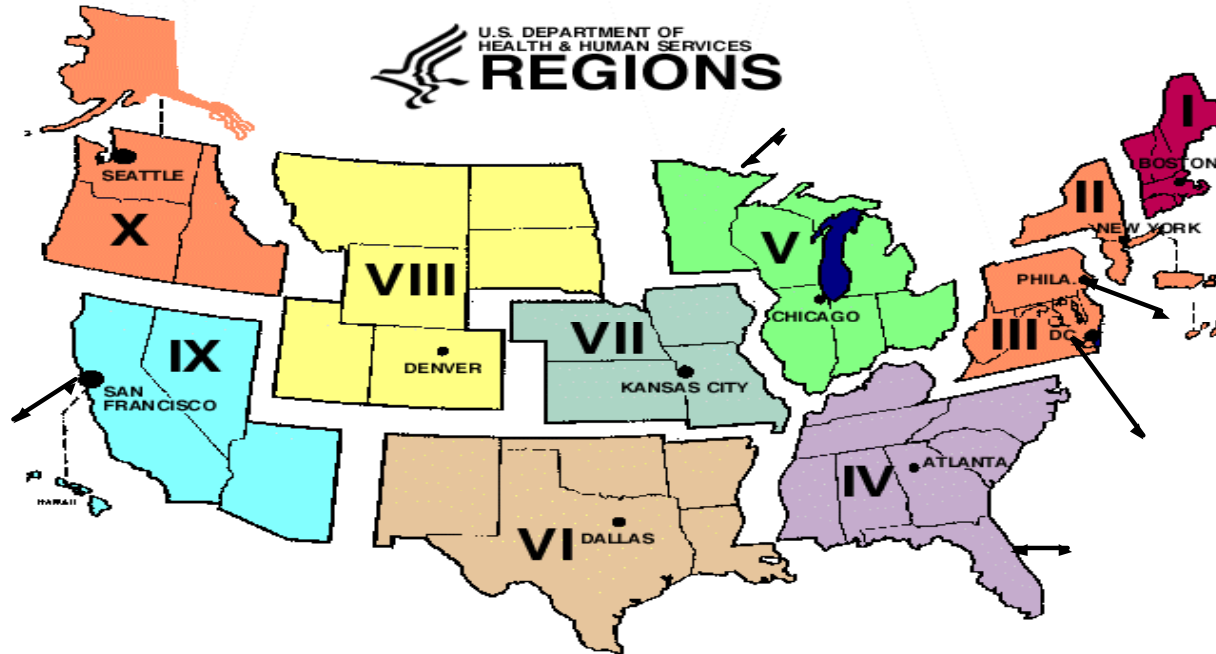


# 2001 REGIONAL CONFERENCES

## SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL PROJECTS

### CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR NATIONWIDE EXPANSION





# TOPICS

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## ➤ Overview Of Where We've Been

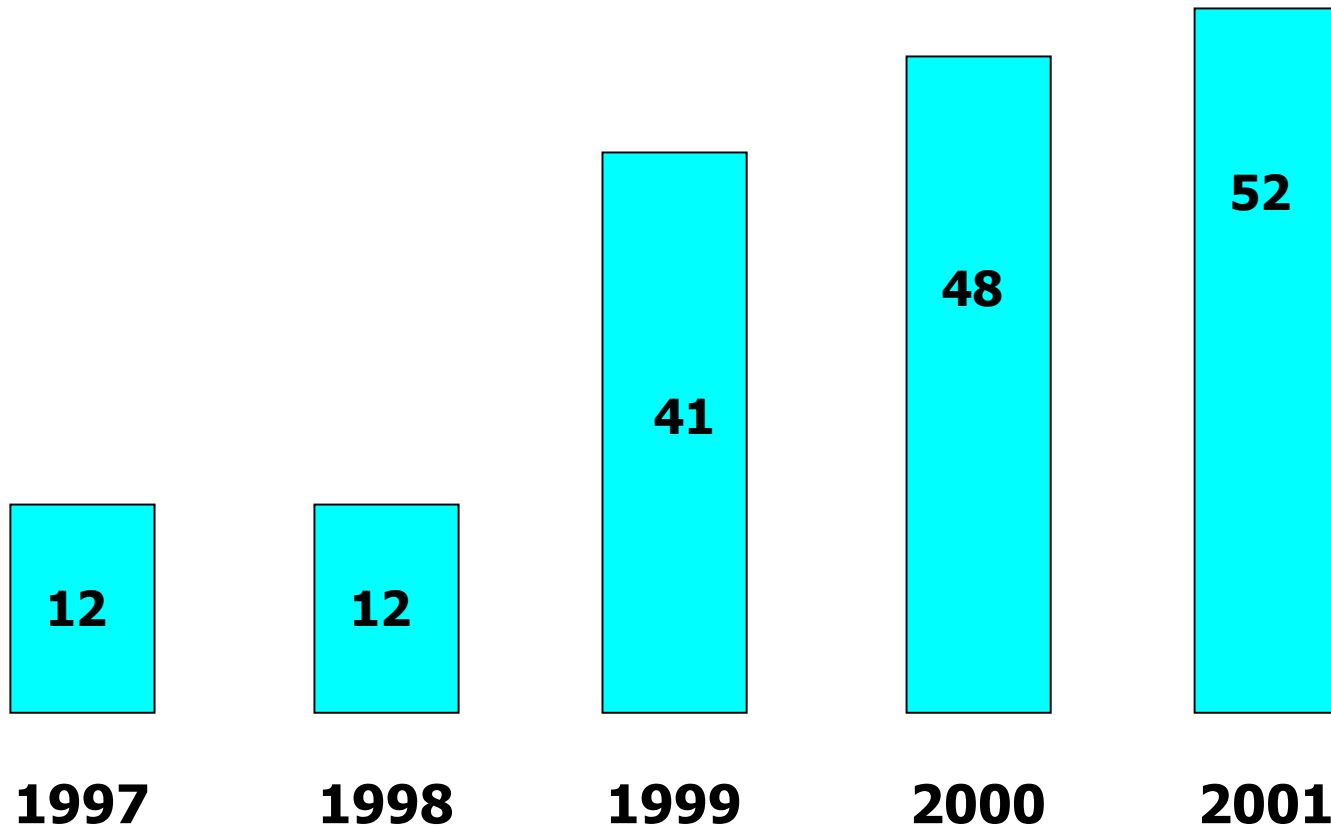
- Growth of Projects
- Project Accomplishments
- National Accomplishments

## ➤ Where Do We Go From Here?

- Review of Mission & Mandate
- Expand Education Efforts
- Intention is to Continue Initiative

# WHERE WE'VE BEEN

## ➤ Nationwide Growth of Projects





# GRANTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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- # Senior Volunteers Trained as Trainers – 17,830
- # Beneficiaries Educated by Trainers – 380,000
- # Media Events Conducted -- 5,300
- # Reached by Media Events -- 71 million



# GRANTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Continued)

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- # Complaints Referred for Follow-Up - 2,350
- Documented Medicare & Medicaid Savings – \$51 million
- Contributed to Cutting the Error Rate in Half – Saving Billions of Dollars



# NATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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- Medicare Error Rate Cut in Half Since 1996
  - **FY 1996** - **14%** or \$23.2 billion in Improper Payments
  - **FY 2000** - **6.8%** or \$11.9 Billion in Improper Payments
- **FY 2000** - More Than 1,600 Individuals/Entities Excluded Due to Fraud or Abuse
- **FY 2000** - 213 Criminal Convictions; 209 Civil Actions



# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

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- Overview Of Our Mission & Mandate
- Exponential Expansion of Our Education Efforts
  - Outreach to Unserved and Underserved
  - National Resource Centers
- Reducing Error Rate & Stopping Error, Fraud & Abuse Are Important Administration Goals



# REVIEW OF MANDATE & MISSION

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➤ Senate Report 106-293 – FY 2001 Appropriations

“The Committee has provided last year’s level of funding to continue the ‘Senior Waste Patrol’ pilot project to test the best ways of using the skills of retired nurses, doctors, accountants and other professionals to **train seniors and to serve as expert resources** to detect and stop Medicare fraud, waste and abuse.”





# EXPAND EDUCATION EFFORTS

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- Message Out to New States and New Communities
- Reach Greater Numbers Of Beneficiaries Through Volunteer Education & Assistance
- Materials Appropriate for Persons With Low Health Literacy
- Outreach to Unserved and Underserved Elders



# REACH UNSERVED & UNDERSERVED

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## ➤ *Role of National Resource Centers*

- Gather Info on Successful Initiatives
- Lay Groundwork for Replicating Practices Nationwide
- Disseminate Information
- Provide Technical Assistance & Training



# OUTREACH TO VULNERABLE ELDER

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## *National Resource Centers*

**New York State Office for the Aging** -- Partnership Strategies With Providers, Caregivers, & Government Agencies.

Project Coordinator: Patricia Hasan

**Florida Department of Elder Affairs** -- Outreach and Education to Minority & Non-English-Speaking Individuals.

Project Coordinator: Ramona Brookins Yeartie



# OUTREACH TO VULNERABLE ELDERERS

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## *National Resource Centers*

**Virginia Department for the Aging** -- Outreach and Education to Rural and Geographically Isolated Individuals.

Project Coordinator: Bretiss Zacek

**Puerto Rico - Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs** -- Innovative Outreach to Rural and Isolated Spanish-Speaking Individuals.

Project Coordinator: Vanessa Diaz Fonseca



# USE AOA TO HELP REPLICATE PRACTICES & PRODUCTS

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- **Consumer Education Materials** (**Kenton.Williams@aoa.gov**)

- Brochures

- Videos

- Health Care Journals

- Volunteer Pins & Certificates of Appreciation

- **Facilitate Grantee Info- Sharing**

- Conferences

- Listserv

- Revised Web Site



# GRANTEES' ROLES

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Number one mandate is to train seniors, who in turn educate beneficiaries – only reached small proportion so far.

- Reach new communities
- Educate unserved/underserved – materials effective
- Share strategies that have worked
- Work with AoA and all of our partners



# CONCLUSION

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## Reducing the Error Rate & Stopping Fraud & Abuse Are Important Administration Goals

- Goal is to reduce the Medicare error rate to 5 percent in fiscal year 2002.
- We at AoA believe these projects are an important component of that effort.
- Congress will decide on future funding and directions, based on our continued good work & outcomes.
- There is much more to accomplish -- with your help.